

Serial No. 10/671,291
Atty. Doc. No. 03P14216US

REMARKS

Applicant has canceled claim 4 and has amended claims 1, 5, and 16. Thus, claims 1-3 and 5-20 are pending in the application and presented for examination. Applicant respectfully requests allowance of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Response To Rejections Under Section 102:

Claims 1-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), the Examiner contending that these claims are anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,261,053 to Anderson ("Anderson"). The Examiner apparently reads Anderson as disclosing the disclosed invention.

The Anderson device is a cooling arrangement for gas turbine components in which hot-gas-facing portions of fluid guide platforms containing edge cooling bores are beveled to remove material from a platform region prone to flow separation and extremely-high temperatures.

While it is noted that Anderson includes first and second boundary members, Anderson does not include a second boundary member first edge characterized by a radially-aligned portion and a radially-skewed portion extending rotationally-downstream therefrom, with said second boundary member first edge being disposed proximate and substantially parallel to said first boundary member second edge and spaced apart therefrom by an interface gap disposed therebetween; wherein said interface gap includes a radially-aligned portion and a radially-skewed portion, said radially-skewed portion is rotationally-downstream from said radially-aligned portion of second boundary member first edge and having a radially-inward region and a radially-outward region, said radially-outward region being rotationally-upstream of said radially-inward region.

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In view of the above, Independent claims 1 and 16 are patentable. Dependent claims 2,3 and 5-20 are also patentable at least based on their dependency from their respective base claims, as well as based on their own merit. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the Section 102 rejection.

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CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the objections and rejections set forth in the outstanding Office Action are inapplicable to the present claims and specification. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider the objections and rejections and timely pass the application to allowance.

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The undersigned has made a good faith effort to respond to all of the objections and rejections in the application and to place the claims in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions concerning this paper or application, or if any undeveloped issues or questions remain, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney to resolve such issue or question. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

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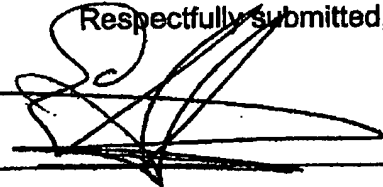
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Respectfully submitted,

Dated:

6/27/05

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